

09/873,718

MS147187.01/MSFTP246US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A system that facilitates the administration of an application, comprising:
 - a resource identifier that identifies resources associated with the application;
 - a manifest that logs the resources; and
 - an aggregator that aggregates a subset of the resources ~~into the manifest~~ into one or more application images to facilitate administration of the application.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the aggregator is at least one of a user interface and an automated builder.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising an application identifier to identify the resources as a collection.
4. (Original) The system of claim 3, wherein the application identifier is a globally unique identifier (GUID).
5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the manifest is at least one of consumable and manageable in order to facilitate administration of the application.
6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the resources are at least one of a data structure, configuration file, file, directory, directory substructure, pointer, identifier to other images, objects and code image.
7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the resources are at least one of organized, executed, operated upon, and enumerated in at least one of a flat and hierarchical manner.
8. (Cancelled)

09/873,718

MS147187.01/MSFTP246US

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the application images are nested into one or more subsequent application images.
10. (Original) The system of claim 8, further comprising an existing application that is extended by including one or more new components into the one or more application images.
11. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one of a monitoring component, a service level agreement (SLA), a deployment policy, and a bandwidth policy.
12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the monitoring component provides an enumerated display of the resources, the enumerated view including at least one of a flat or hierarchical display of the resources.
13. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the service level agreement provides rules for at least one of the operation, execution, and lifetime of the application.
14. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising a stager that utilizes the deployment policy to configure one or more application images to be deployed.
15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the deployment policies determine a location where the one or more applications are deployed.
16. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the bandwidth policy enables an application to determine available resources.
17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the bandwidth policy enables the application to monitor the application utilization and regulate the amount of available resources executing the application in accordance with the application utilization.

09/873,718

MS147187.01/MSFTP246US

18. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the resources are mapped to corresponding system resources.
19. (Original) A method to facilitate administration of an application, comprising:
defining an application identifier;
locating one or more resources associated with the application; and
combining the one or more resources and the application identifier into an application image.
20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the application identifier is a globally unique identifier.
21. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising replicating the application image to one or more members.
22. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising nesting the application image into a subsequent application image.
23. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising extending the application image by combining a subsequent component with the application image.
24. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising operating upon the application image in at least one of a flat and a hierarchical manner.
25. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising combining the one or more resources into a manifest.

09/873,718

MS147187.01/MSFTP246US

26. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising associating at least one of a monitoring component, a service level agreement, a deployment policy, and a bandwidth policy with the application image.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the at least one of the monitoring component, the service level agreement, the deployment policy, and the bandwidth policy are included within the application image.

28. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the acts of claim 19.

29. (Original) A system to facilitate administration of an application, comprising:
means for assigning an identity to an application;
means for locating a plurality of components associated with the application; and
means for combining the plurality of resources and the identity into an application image.

30. (Original) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon, an application image, comprising:
one or more resource identifiers configured in at least one of a flat and hierarchal arrangement between the one or more resource identifiers;
a manifest to group the resource identifiers; and
an application identifier to associate the resource identifiers and the manifest within the application image.

31. (Original) A signal to communicate an application image, comprising:
a signal to communicate data; and
an aggregated application image, the aggregated image including a plurality of resources defined in a manifest, the aggregated image identified by a globally unique

09/873,718

MS147187.01/MSFTP246US

identifier, wherein the aggregated application image is communicated via the signal between members of at least one of a local, remote, and wireless system.

32. (Original) A graphical user interface, comprising:

one or more interface objects associated with an aggregated application image, the aggregated application image including at least one of a resource identifier and an application identifier associated with the at least one resource identifier, the one or more interface objects facilitating at least one of deployment, creation, deletion, and enumeration of the aggregated application object.

33. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 32, further comprising a deployment wizard to distribute the aggregated image between members of an entity.

34. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the deployment wizard further comprises target options for deployment of the aggregated image.

35. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 34, wherein the deployment wizard further comprises at least one of a deployment name and a selection for deploying the aggregated image inside and outside of the entity.

36. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the deployment wizard further comprises a deployment source authentication that includes at least one of a user name, a password, and a domain.

37. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the deployment wizard further comprises a deployment target authentication that includes at least one of a user name, a password, and a domain.

09/873,718

MS147187.01/MSFTP246US

38. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the deployment wizard further comprises a selection for which members of the entity to deploy the aggregated image.

39. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the deployment wizard further comprises options for deploying the aggregated image to all members of the entity.

40. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the deployment wizard further comprises providing a selection for which of one or more aggregated images are to be deployed.

41. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the deployment wizard further comprises at least one of permissions options, reset options, draining options and filter options.

42. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 33, wherein the interface objects further comprises a selectable display to enumerate one or more aggregated images.

43. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 42, wherein the selectable display further comprises providing a selection of the one or more aggregated images to enumerate the resources within the one or more aggregated images in at least one of a flat and a hierarchal manner.

44. (Original) The graphical user interface of claim 42, wherein the selectable display further comprises selections to at least one of add and remove resources from the aggregated image.